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A RESOLUTION to honor Dr. Fred A. Hurst for his efforts with the
Future Doctor's Program.

WHEREAS, once in a great while the serendipitous hand of destiny places in our midst an individual whose exceedingly rare combination of talents and abilities serve to shape an entire profession: such a man is Dr. Fred Hurst; and

WHEREAS, endowed with uncommon insight, wisdom, skill, and a genuine interest in the welfare of others, Dr. Hurst has made significant contributions to the future of the medical profession; and

WHEREAS, knowing that only one-third of the doctors in America today are primary-care physicians and only one-fifth of today's medical students plan a career in primary specialties, Dr. Hurst embarked on a crusade to encourage prospective medical students to seek careers in family practice, women's health, pediatrics, and internal medicine; and

WHEREAS, to properly introduce high school students to the medical practice and to show them that they can have gratifying futures in primary care, Dr. Hurst envisioned a program that would bring talented students into local hospitals where they could "shadow" practicing physicians; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, Dr. Hurst's vision became a reality in the form of FutrDOCS; a program that partners hospitals and high schools, enabling interested students to experience day-to-day hospital routines; and

WHEREAS, since its inception at St. Mary's Hospital in Knoxville, FutrDOCS has enrolled more than 125 students; enabling aspiring youths to accompany health care professionals on patient rounds, witness surgery, attend pre-med lectures and visit with a wide spectrum of medical experts; and

WHEREAS, still in its infancy, FutrDOCS is being recognized nationwide and Dr. Hurst has received at least 100 inquiries about the program from more than 35 states; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hurst and the program have been applauded by President Bill Clinton, recognized by Paul Harvey in his newspaper column and on his radio program, featured in Parade Magazine, and documented by the Cable News Network (CNN); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hurst's commitment to the future of primary care is nothing less than outstanding and he is certainly deserving of recognition for the success of the FutrDOCS program; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean, Dr. Hurst received two undergraduate degrees from Carson-Newman College and graduated with his medical degree from the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences in 1973; he completed an internship at the University of Tennessee Medical Research Center and Hospital and is board-certified by the American Board of Family Practice and the American Academy of Family Physicians; and

WHEREAS, as an active alumnus, Dr. Hurst serves on the Board of Trustees for Carson-Newman College and is a member of the advisory boards for the University of Tennessee College of Human Ecology and the Department of Drama and Theatre; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hurst is currently active at St. Mary's Hospital, where he is Chairman of the St. Mary's Foundation, and is also affiliated with Fort Sanders Medical Center and Park West Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hurst has further shown a commitment to his profession through his participation in numerous professional organizations and societies, including the American Medical Association, Tennessee Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians, and the Knoxville Academy of Medicine, of which he serves as Secretary; and

WHEREAS, ever one to shoulder the mantle of civic responsibility, Dr. Hurst has volunteered his expertise to educate patients in the Knoxville community as a health columnist for The Knoxville News-Sentinel and the host of WIVK's "Sound-Off to Your Health" live radio show; and

WHEREAS, as a dedicated medical professional, unique educator, and esteemed humanitarian, Dr. Fred Hurst has imparted the highest ideals of the health care profession to many; and it is only fitting that the members of this Assembly wish to acknowledge their profound appreciation and gratitude to one of Tennessee's greatest contributors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Dr. Fred A. Hurst for his contributions to the future of primary health care and we highlight his efforts as a selfless and inspiring visionary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we support and encourage Dr. Hurst and FutrDOCS participants, as this program will most assuredly benefit the health care profession in our state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.